

**Minutes of the
East Wisconsin Counties Railroad Consortium
Meeting of July 13, 2016**

East Wisconsin Counties Railroad Consortium Meeting was called to order by Chairman Rick Gundrum on July 13, 2016, at 10:00 a.m., at the Plymouth Utilities Conference Room, 900 County Road PP, Plymouth, Wisconsin.

Certification Of Public Notice: Kelly L. Lepple certified that the notice of this meeting complies with all applicable requirements of Wisconsin's open meetings law.

Roll call was taken.

Present: Kenneth Hutler and James E. Foley, Columbia County; Russell Kottke and Harold Johnson, Dodge County; Joseph Koch and Karen Madigan, Fond du Lac County; Thomas E. Winker and Donald Dohrwardt, Ozaukee County; Richard Bemis and Jim Glavan, Sheboygan County; Rick Gundrum and Dan Goetz, Washington County; and Joel Rasmussen and Larry Smith, Winnebago County.

Excused: Rich Slate, Green Lake County; Steve F. Taylor and Khalif Rainey, Milwaukee County; and Jeff Schleif, Washington County.

Others Present: Thomas G. Wegner, Sheboygan County Board Chairman; Don Pohlman, Mayor for the City of Plymouth; Ken Lucht, WSOR; Charles Beck, Spectator; Rose Hass Leider, Spectator; and, Kelly L. Lepple, Recording Secretary.

Public Comment: Sheboygan County Board Chairman, Thomas G. Wegner, welcomed everyone to Sheboygan County. Don Pohlman, Mayor for the City of Plymouth, also welcomed everyone to Sheboygan County and thanked the EWCRC for its support of freight rail service and for its efforts to improve and expand freight rail service in Wisconsin.

Approval of Minutes of May 11, 2016: Motion by Hutler/Foley to approve the minutes of the May 11, 2016 meeting, as presented. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Financial Report: Russell Kottke reported the following: The balance in the checkbook as of June 30, 2016, was \$1,000. Deposits were \$279,562.66. Expenditures were \$29,562.66. Transfers were \$250,000. As of June 30, 2016, the balance in the checkbook was \$1,000. Total EWCRC money on deposit in the Local Government Investment Pool as of June 30, 2016, is \$369,158.65. Motion by Winker/Koch to approve the Financial Report. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Consider and discuss the WSOR presentation of its 2015 financial report to WisDOT that took place on June 21, 2016: The Committee considered and discussed the WSOR Presentation of its 2015 Financial Report to WisDOT that took place on June 21, 2016. Rick Gundrum reported that on June 21, 2016, David Owens, Assistant Finance Director for Washington County, Wisconsin, on behalf of the EWCRC, attended the WSOR presentation of its 2015 financial report to WisDOT.

Consider, discuss, approve, and authorize payment of invoice from Washington County for its attendance at the WSOR presentation of its 2015 financial report to WisDOT that took place on June 21, 2016: The Committee considered and discussed the invoice from Washington County, in the amount of \$359.41 for the attendance of David Owens, Assistant Finance Director for Washington County, Wisconsin, on behalf of the EWCRC, at the WSOR presentation of its 2015 financial report to WisDOT that took place on June 21, 2016. Motion by Rasmussen/Bemis to approve payment of this invoice and to authorize and direct the Office of Dodge County Corporation Counsel to send payment to Washington County, in the amount of \$359.41, for the attendance of David Owens, Assistant Finance Director for Washington County, Wisconsin, on behalf of the EWCRC, at the WSOR presentation of its 2015 financial report to WisDOT that took place on June 21, 2016. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Consider, discuss, and take action on the level of funding by member counties for 2017: There was consideration of and discussion about the level of funding by member counties for 2017. Motion by Bemis/Dohwardt that the Board of Directors of the EWCRC recommend to each member county that each member county budget \$25,000 for its 2017 member county contribution to the EWCRC. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Election of Officers:

Rick Gundrum called for nominations from the floor for the office of Chairman.

Chairman: Joseph Koch nominated Thomas Winker for Chairman. There were no other nominations. Motion by Dohwardt/Glavan to cast a unanimous ballot for Thomas Winker as Chairman. Motion carried by unanimous vote. Thomas Winker was elected Chairman of the EWCRC.

Upon election, Thomas Winker assumed the office of Chairman.

Vice Chairman: Larry Smith nominated himself for Vice Chairman. There were no other nominations. Motion by Madigan/Dohwardt to cast a unanimous ballot for Larry Smith as Vice Chairman. Motion carried by unanimous vote. Larry Smith was elected Vice Chairman of the EWCRC.

Secretary: Ken Hutler nominated Joseph Koch for Secretary. There were no other nominations. Motion by Kottke/Rasmussen to cast a unanimous ballot for Joseph Koch as Secretary. Motion carried by unanimous vote. Joseph Koch was elected Secretary of the EWCRC.

Treasurer: Ken Hutler nominated Russell Kottke for Treasurer. There were no other nominations. Motion by Koch/Glavan to cast a unanimous ballot for Russell Kottke as Treasurer. Motion carried by unanimous vote. Russell Kottke was elected Treasurer of the EWCRC.

Consider and discuss Wisconsin Railroad Association's 10th Annual Freight Rail Day to be held on October 19, 2016: The Wisconsin Railroad Association's 10th Annual Freight Rail Day will be held on Wednesday, October 19, 2016, at the Lambeau Field Legends Club Room, in Green Bay, Wisconsin. Ken Lucht reported that more information will be coming soon regarding sponsorship, registration, agenda, speakers, and accommodations. Tom Winker and Larry Smith stated that they will attend the Wisconsin Railroad Association's 10th Annual Freight Rail Day, on Wednesday, October 19, 2016.

Request by Chairman of the Green Lake County Board of Supervisors for a member of the Board of Directors of the EWCRC to make an informational presentation about the EWCRC to the Green Lake County Board of Supervisors on either August 16, 2016, or September 20, 2016: Ken Lucht reported that he will attend the September 20, 2016 meeting of the Green Lake County Board of Supervisors to make an informational presentation about the EWCRC. Tom Winker and Larry Smith stated that they will attend the September 20, 2016 meeting of the Green Lake County Board of Supervisors on behalf of the EWCRC.

Consider, discuss, and take action on Report of WisDOT, Bureau of Railroads and Harbors: There was no report.

Consider, discuss, and take action on report of WSOR: Ken Lucht reported the following: Maintenance activities have been affected by weather conditions and outdoor temperatures. When outdoor temperatures are high, rails heat and become flexible, and, therefore, train speeds must be reduced. 200 Team Members have been working on the Summer Spike program. 2016 has been the best year, in terms of safety, in the past 6 or 7 years, and he is hopeful that this favorable trend will continue for a long time into the future. Part of the annual maintenance plan is weed spraying around the entire system. A truck travels on the railroad tracks and sprays the weeds and brush on the sides of the track. This is important because the weeds and brush retain moisture, and the retained moisture deteriorates railroad ties. Arrangements are currently being made for an ultrasonic testing car and a geometry testing car to be on site within the next three months. These cars test different aspects of the rail, and the testing conducted by each of these cars is essential to ensure safe rail and safe sub ballast on which to operate trains. Both cars will provide a computer printout of any defects in the rail or misalignment of cross-sections of the sub ballast. After the defects are identified, a maintenance crew is dispatched to repair the identified defects. Contractors will install approximately 9,000 maintenance ties between Brandon and Oshkosh, on the Oshkosh Subdivision. This maintenance tie project is in addition to the approximately 17,000 maintenance ties that were installed in 2015 between Horicon and Brandon. The Markesan continuous welded rail project is complete. This project replaced rail that was over 150 years old. As part of this project, WSOR is required to complete the surfacing of the ballast, and it is anticipated that WSOR will complete the surfacing of the ballast sometime in August of 2016.

Ken Lucht further reported that upcoming projects include: 1) replacement of a 2,200 foot long bridge made of timber, located in Spring Green, which crosses the Wisconsin River. A grant was received to complete this project over the next few years. The bridge will be replaced under traffic, which means that contractors will be given construction windows each week to complete the project, and the bridge will remain in service for railroad operations outside of those construction windows; 2) a tie replacement project on the Watertown Subdivision, between Madison and Watertown. This is a State capital rehab project; and, 3) a tie replacement project on the Prairie Subdivision, between Wauzeka and Prairie du Chien.

Service is very good on the Plymouth Subdivision, which starts at Saukville and ends in Kiel. Traffic continues to increase. The Sheboygan Falls Subdivision is a new subdivision in the network, and there has been interest from new businesses to become involved within the subdivision. WSOR will present its 2015 Capital Maintenance Plan at the next meeting. This presentation will include the scope of the plan, maintenance tie project information, and public at grade crossing project information. Following this presentation, a presentation will be made regarding capital priorities. Capital priorities are projects that are anticipated to be undertaken within the next 4 or 5 years, that will include partnering with the State of Wisconsin and the rail transit commissions. One of the

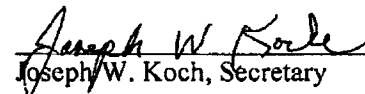
projects within the capital priorities is a continuous welded rail rehabilitation project from Ripon to Oshkosh. The project has been applied for based on the facts that the traffic is growing in Oshkosh and the rail in Oshkosh is worn out.

Date, time, and place of next meeting (September 14, 2016): The next regular EWCRC meeting will be held on September 14, 2016, at 10:00 a.m. Dodge County will host the meeting.

Motion by Goetz/Rasmussen to adjourn. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph W. Koch, Secretary

Disclaimer: These are draft minutes. These draft minutes may be approved, amended, or corrected at the next meeting of the East Wisconsin Counties Railroad Consortium.